



NMFS CRISP: Critical Sightings Programs

Please help the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) collect vital information on right whales, and dead, entangled, or injured whales of any species by contacting either the Northeast or Southeast Regional hotlines **immediately** when critical sightings are made. Images of critical sightings are extremely valuable. **Please make taking video or photographs a priority.**

If an **entangled** or **dead** whale is sighted, please keep the whale in sight after reporting unless the NMFS responders request otherwise. **Do not attempt to disentangle a whale unless authorized.**

Reporting Information

For any critical sighting be prepared with the following information

- ✓ Time and location of the sighting
- ✓ Distinctive features of the animal and its estimated length
- ✓ Signs of injury or entanglement
- ✓ Description of behavior and injuries
- ✓ If the whale is dead, the condition of the carcass
- ✓ How you can be contacted (cell phone, landline)

Reporting Numbers

In the **Northeast Region** call the appropriate pager:

(ME – VA and offshore north of 36°35'N)

Entangled whales: **800-900-3622**

Dead, ship-struck or injured whales: **978-585-7149**

Right Whale Sightings (north of 33°00'N): **978-585-8473**

In the **Southeast Region** call the appropriate pager:

(TX-NC and offshore south of 36°35'N)

Entangled, dead, ship-struck or injured whales: **305-862-2850**

For Right Whale sightings (south of 33°00'N) call: **978-585-8473**

In both Regions, reports can also be relayed through U.S. Coast Guard Stations.

